

## Message Text

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ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 OIC-02 AID-05 COME-00

OMB-01 HA-05 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 (ISO) W

-----031188 302331Z /62

R 300300Z AUG 78

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1220

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, MV

SUBJECT: MALDIVIAN DELEGATION TO IMF/WORLD BANK ANNUAL MEETING

REF: STATE 203590

1. THE DELEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF MALDIVES TO THE SUBJECT MEETING WILL BE HEADED BY EDUCATION MINISTER AMIR ABDUL SATTAR WHO IS ALSO THE MALDIVIAN GOVERNOR OF THE IMF AND THE BANK. HE WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY HUSSAIN ALI DIDI, ALTERNATE GOVERNOR FOR THE IMF, AND AHMED SALEEM, ALTERNATE GOVERNOR FOR IBRD AND IDA. DIDI IS UNDER SECRETARY OF THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND SALEEM IS UNDER SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE; AS BOTH ARE OF THE SAME RANK, BOTH WILL APPARENTLY HAVE EQUAL STATUS ON THE DELEGATION AND NO ALTERNATE HEAD OF DELEGATION HAS BEEN CHOSEN.

2. ACCORDING TO THE AMERICAN CONSULAR AGENT IN MALE, THE GOVERNMENT OF MALDIVES (GOM) DELEGATION DOES NOT PLAN TO MAKE ANY IMPORTANT PROPOSALS IN THE PLENARY WITH BANK/FUND OFFICIALS, NOR WILL ANY MAJOR ISSUES BE RAISED WITH THE US DELEGATION.

3. IT HAS BEEN THE EMBASSY'S EXPERIENCE, HOWEVER, THAT THE MALDIVIANS SELDOM PASS UP AN OPPORTUNITY IN TALKING WITH  
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AMERICAN OFFICIALS TO EXPRESS THEIR WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT US AID. IF THIS SUBJECT IS RAISED DURING THE VISIT OF THE MALDIVIAN DELEGATION, THE EMBASSY SUGGESTS THE US DELEGATION MAKE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

(A) AS THIS IS MALDIVES FIRST IMF/IBRD ANNUAL MEETING, THE U.S. DELEGATION MAY WISH TO WELCOME THE GOM DELEGATES AND TO OFFER ASSISTANCE IN MAKING THEIR FIRST VISIT TO

WASHINGTON USEFUL AND ENJOYABLE.

(B) GIVEN CONGRESSIONAL LIMITATIONS ON THE AID PROGRAM, WE SEE LITTLE LIKELIHOOD OF A DIRECT BILATERAL USAID PROGRAM AT THIS TIME. NEVERTHELESS, THIS SUBJECT WILL BE KEPT UNDER REVIEW.

(C) WE HAVE HOWEVER, RECOMMENDED AND SECURED AN INCREASE IN FUNDED SCHOLARSHIPS FOR MALDIVIAN STUDENTS AT THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT FROM TWO TO SEVEN FOR THIS ACADEMIC YEAR.

(D) THE ASSIGNMENT OF PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS (PCV'S) TO MALDIVES HAS BEEN RECOMMENDED BY EMBASSY COLOMBO (COLOMBO 0755). WHILE NO PCV'S ARE CURRENTLY AVAILABLE FOR SERVICE IN MALDIVES, PEACE CORPS ASSISTANCE TO MALDIVES IS STILL UNDER CONSIDERATION.

(E) THE COOPERATION AND HOSPITALITY THAT THE GOM HAS GIVEN TO REPRESENTATIVES OF PRIVATE VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATIONS (PVO'S) IS VERY MUCH APPRECIATED. THE OVERSEAS EDUCATIONAL FUND OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS AND INTERNATIONAL HUMAN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS INC. ARE TWO PVO'S CONSIDERING PROGRAMS IN MALDIVES. BOTH ORGANIZATIONS ARE EXPECTED TO APPLY FOR USAID FUNDS, AND THE EMBASSY WILL RECOMMEND THAT SUCH REQUESTS BE REVIEWED IN POSITIVE MANNER.

(F) THE GOM'S COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE IN ESTABLISHING THE AMERICAN CONSULAR AGENCY IN MALE IS GREATLY APPRECIATED. IT IS HOPED THAT THE CONSULAR AGENT, MISS RASHEEDA DIDI, WILL CONTINUE TO BE A USEFUL CHANNEL FOR THE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS BETWEEN THE MALDIVIAN AND U.S. GOVERNMENTS.  
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WRIGGINS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
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